(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to sell off certain public sector hotels to private sector;

(b) if so, the name of such hotels and the reasons for selecting these hotels for privatization; and

(c) the amount of financial assistance Government are likely to gain as a result of this privatisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Sound and light shows at Tourism Spots

2209. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is any proposal to commission sound and light shows at all major historic-cum-tourist spots in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether Government of Karnataka has forwarded a proposal for commissioning sound and light show at Kittur Fort in Belgaum District of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Tourism projects including mounting of Sound and Light Shows are identified in consultation with the State Government/U.T. Administrations and sanctioned on merit subject to availability of funds.

(c) and (d) A proposal received in this regard during 2003-04 was not approved.

Tourism Bank

2210. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to encourage the formation of tourism bank to finance infrastructure required for tourism in the country;